January 8, 2014

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The MLW Blog: Foreign language interpreters needed for courts

"The Michigan Supreme Court is looking for foreign language interpreters to fill slots it said were needed when it adopted a new rule that requires all courts in the state to provide interpreters. Qualified interpreter candidates must understand both the common slang of witnesses and the technical language of lawyers, police officers, and expert eyewitnesses, according to the Court."

Full story

Also see:

Foreign language interpreters needed for courts; Supreme Court seeks to ensure those who can't speak English have meaningful access to justice system

Press release

Dearborn Patch: Dearborn City Officials Inaugurated Last Thursday

"Dearborn city officials serving terms in 2014-2017 were inaugurated last week during a formal ceremony at the Michael A. Guido Theater. The new council was sworn in by Michigan Supreme Court Justice Brian Zahra, along with Dearborn Mayor John B. O'Reilly Jr."

Full story

Detroit Legal News: Cold Snap: Burst pipe causes water damage in Frank Murphy Hall of Justice

"Hustling repair crews over the weekend and on Monday at Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in downtown Detroit reduced the downtime to zero for Wayne County Circuit Court.... The leak caused water damage to the building's lobby, the bond office, the jury assembly area and two ground floor courtrooms as well as a room used by the Wayne County Sheriff's Department."

Full story

Grand Rapids Press: After courtroom scuffle, trial for Grand Rapids man accused of killing half-brother temporarily stopped

"A Grand Rapids man accused of killing his half-brother stood up and turned toward a Kent County assistant prosecutor in agitation in a Kent County courtroom [Tuesday] -- a move that left him nearly tackled by a swarm of deputies. The ensuing commotion was enough for Kent County Circuit Court Judge Donald Johnston to adjourn the trial for Royale Runyon for the rest of Tuesday, Jan. 7."

Full story

Macomb County Legal News: Snowstorm shutters state Supreme Court

"Michigan's citizens felt winter's snowy wrath Sunday. Homeowners, businesses and government offices spent Monday digging out and the state's courts were no exception.... The Michigan Hall of Justice in Lansing, which houses the Supreme Court, Lansing office of the Court of Appeals, and State Court Administrative Office, was closed Monday. All Court of Appeals offices — in Detroit, Lansing, Grand Rapids and Troy — and the Court of Claims were also closed."

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.

The MLW Blog: High court: Lawyers sent to Attorney Grievance Comm'n filed their appeal too late

"Two lawyers sent to the Attorney Grievance Commission by the Michigan Court of Appeals have filed their appeal with the Michigan Supreme Court one day too late. The Court of Appeals, in Chaban v. Rathore, ordered that Mount Clemens attorney Michael E. Tindall and Plymouth lawyer Mark A. Chaban be referred to the AGC on ethics charges for bringing a retaliatory lawsuit against a former client.... On Jan. 3, 2014, Tindall and Chaban appealed the COA ruling, which was dated Nov. 21, 2013. [The deadline was Jan. 2.]"

Full story

The Michigan Daily/Ann Arbor: University alum to run for 22nd Circuit Court seat

"On Monday, a University alumnus announced her intention to run for a seat on the 22nd Circuit Court of Michigan, which will be vacant in 2015. Veronique Liem announced in a press release that she intends to run to replace outgoing Judge Donald Shelton. Michael Woodward also announced his candidacy Monday, the only other declared candidate in the race so far."

Full story

Washtenaw County Legal News: Constance Jones announces candidacy for judge

"Ann Arbor attorney Constance L. Jones has announced her candidacy for Washtenaw County Probate Court Judge. Jones, a 1987 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, has been in private practice for 26 years.... She is seeking the seat that will be left vacant by the retirement of Probate Judge Nancy Wheeler."

Full story